development of infrastructure at tourism destinations identified in consultation with them. Projects in Rajasthan State have not been identified as yet for financial assistance during the year 2002-03.

Depiction of places of Cultural Revolution

3780. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to boost tourism depicting the places of "Cultural Revolution" throughout the country;

(b) if so, the places so identified for this programme; and

(c) the amount earmarked by Government for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India grants financial assistance every year to the State Governments" UT Administrations for tourism development projects identified in consultation with them.

(b) and (c) The proposals for the year 2002-03 have not yet been finalised.

Handing over of control to BBMB

3781. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to provisions of Punjab Reorganisation Act, the Control of Ropar, Harike and Ferozpur Head works vested with Punjab was to be transferred to Bhakra Beas Management Board, but it still remains with the Government of Punjab;

(b) if so, the steps taken to hand over the control to BBMB, and the reasons for failure to do so; and

(c) the Rajasthan Government's plea in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1996 provides for the administration,

maintenance and operation of the irrigation head works at Ropar, Harike and Ferozepur by the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB). The control of these head works remains with the Government of Punjab.

(b) Besides requesting the Government of Punjab to hand over the control of the head works to BBMB, the Union Government subsequently discussed the matter in meetings of the Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan convened in July and August 1992. However, no further meeting could be held due to one reason or the other to finalize the decision arrived at in the meetings. The matter has also been raised in the Northern Zonal Council meetings. Repeated endeavour of the Union Government to convene another inter-state meeting of the concerned Chief Ministers to arrive at an amicable settlement on various water related issues including the transfer of the head works to BBMB, has not materialized so far.

(c) The Government of Rajasthan is of the view that the transfer of control of head works to the Bhakra Beas Management Board is specifically provided in the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 and any change in the same is not warranted. The State Government has requested for another inter-state meeting of the concerned Chief Ministers to resolve the issue.

Decline in ground water level

3782. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Scary summer". Taps dry little underground which appeared in the Times of India dated the 21st March, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to address the problem of continuously depleting table of underground water level as highlighted in the report?